



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2021

No. 193

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Creator God, open our eyes to the gift that You have laid before us this day. Fill us early with an awareness of Your unfailing love, that throughout the day we would know the satisfaction of happiness found only in You and the content of joy that we have in Your love for us.

At every moment of the day, bring us evidence of Your loving kindness. At every turn, cause us to know what way You would have us walk. At every encounter, give us the word You would have us speak.

For we put our trust in You. When all else around us proves fleeting, be our constant.

When disappointments erode our sense of certainty, may our faith in You be sure.

When we weary from our labor, may we find strength in the foundation You have laid for our days.

When we are inclined to doubt, may our reverence of You fill us with the joy of our salvation.

In Your mercy may we receive today a wealth of wisdom and knowledge.

Hear now our gratitude for the daily favor You have shown us as we offer our prayers in Your most holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAPPAS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

GOOD BILLS

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, the House continues to pursue the bipartisan infrastructure bill and the Build Back Better bill. There will be a Rules Committee meeting today on those bills. Hopefully, they will come to the floor and will pass with bipartisan support, as the infrastructure bill was passed with bipartisan support in the Senate.

The House has been working to get the framework improved to include other issues. There are so many good issues that we can have in this bill, and we hope to have the maximum possible.

But as a baker once said, and my father implored me as a child: Look at the doughnut, and not at the hole.

We will pass a very good bill, hopefully bipartisan.

TIME TO SECURE OUR BORDER

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, as Congress debates spending trillions of taxpayer dollars, there is a

crisis on our southern border that is being ignored.

In the past year, our Border Patrol agents have made almost 1.5 million apprehensions, yet we are still seeing that there is a massive surge in illegal immigration.

The rise in overdose deaths that our country has seen can be directly tied to the increase in fentanyl that is being smuggled into the United States through Mexico. Now, at the height of the crisis, we are seeing reports that the Biden administration wants to pay settlements to immigrants who enter our country illegally. This is unacceptable.

Now is the time to secure our border and stop the security and humanitarian crises that this policy has created.

Right now, Congress should be working to address the real and present danger at our southern border, not debating yet another socialist spending spree.

THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. On behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus and the millions of Black voters, I rise today in support of H.R. 4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Today, we step into history as we tread the same path taken 56 years ago when President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law, calling that day "a triumph for freedom as huge as any victory that has ever been won on any battlefield."

We have not come this far to turn the clock back, nor shall we let the sacrifices of Fannie Lou Hamer, Martin Luther King, and countless others who marched, fought, disrupted, and lost their lives for the right to vote, be in vain.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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